



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Statue of Liberty
National Monument /
Ellis Island

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Statue of Liberty News Release

For Immediate Release

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Statue of Liberty Opening Day Set for August 3

Secretary of the Interior Gale A. Norton today announced that the Statue of Liberty will be opened on August 3, 2004. More than four and a half million visitors have enjoyed Liberty Island since its opening on December 20, 2001. Now park visitors will be offered a special insiders' view of the engineering marvel that is the Statue of Liberty.

To better understand this monumental work of art, visitors will be able to view inside the Statue through a glass ceiling, guided by a park ranger and an enhanced lighting and new video system. In addition, visitors will once again be able to walk out onto the Statue's observation deck to see the panoramic views of New York City and the Harbor, and witness the Statue up close from her promenades on Ft. Wood.

Visitors will have a choice of two tours into the Statue of Liberty: the Statue of Liberty

Observatory Tour and the Statue of Liberty Promenade Tour. Both tours will include a visit to the Statue's original torch and a guided tour through the Statue of Liberty Museum.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

To eliminate long waiting lines, these tours will be offered by timed reservations that can be made in advance or by walk up before boarding the ferry to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Advance reservations will be available by telephone beginning July 22. The telephone number will be posted on the park's web site as soon as possible. Reservations by internet will be available by September.

Even without a reservation, visitors can enjoy ranger tours around Liberty Island, view interpretive waysides, listen to an audio tour, eat at the restaurant and browse through the gift shop. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/stli

The National Park Service, US Department of the Interior, preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. For more information, visit www.nps.gov.

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